

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT A 00825 091929Z  
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03  
PRS-01 SCA-01 VO-03 INSE-00 SY-05 FBIE-00 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ARAE-00 /056 W  
-----091936Z 090661 /42

P R 091845Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4267  
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 0825

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SHUM, HA  
SUBJECT: MEXICAN EMBASSY GRANTS ASYLUM TO ESCAPED PRISONERS

1. MEXICAN EMBASSY IN PORT-AU-PRINCE GRANTED ASYLUM EVENING MARCH 7 TO TWO HAITIANS, LUCIEN RIGAUD AND ANTONIO DUPUY, WHO ESCAPED CUSTODY OF PRISON AUTHORITIES WHILE HOSPITALIZED. FOLLOWING DAY AMBASSADOR RENATO IRIGOYEN ALONZO SOUGHT GOH PERMISSION TO ALLOW THEM TO LEAVE COUNTRY BUT WAS TURNED DOWN BECAUSE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THEM COMMON CRIMINALS WHO SHOULD NOT BENEFIT FROM PROVISIONS OF LATIN AMERICAN CONVENTION ON POLITICAL ASYLUM WHICH BOTH GOVERNMENT HAVE SIGNED. CASES OF BOTH MEN INVOLVE ALLEGATIONS OF EXTORTION AND POWER RIVALRIES AMONG HAITIAN MILITARY AND MEXICAN AMBASSADOR CONSIDERS CASES MERITED ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS IF NOTHING ELSE. HOW PRESENT IMPASSE WILL BE RESOLVED IS NOT CLEAR BUT IRIGOYEN FEARS EMBASSY MAY HAVE "HOUSE GUESTS" FOR PROLONGED PERIOD.

2. LUCIEN RIGAUD IS A PROSPEROUS LOCAL BUSINESSMAN WHO HAS A SHARP TONGUE AND WHEELER-DEALER REPUTATION. WE HAD SOME KNOWLEDGE OF HIS CASE PRIOR TO ESCAPE. HE WAS FIRST ARRESTED IN LATE DECEMBER 1975, FOLLOWING THE SHOOTING DEATH OF HIS HOUSEBOY DURING AN ALLEGED BREAK-IN AT HIS HOME. HE WAS RELEASED ABOUT THREE WEEKS LATER WHEN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT A 00825 091929Z

THREE POLICEMEN WERE CHARGED WITH CRIME. HE WAS REARRESTED MARCH 9, 1976, ACCORDING TO ONE VERSION, BECAUSE FURTHER INVESTIGATION PROVED HE DID THE SHOOTING OR, ACCORDING TO HIM, BECAUSE MILITARY COMMISSION WHITEWASHED POLICEMEN. RIGAUD IS MARRIED TO A SWISS NATIONAL AND ONE OF HIS CHILDREN IS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN.

3. AN ADDITIONAL REASON GOVERNMENT KEPT HIM IN JAIL, RIGAUD SPECULATES, IS THAT HE HOLDS WHAT HE CALLED CARTE BLANCHE POWER-OF-ATTORNEY FROM PRESIDENT JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER TO NEGOTIATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR HAITI. RIGAUD VISITED THE U.S. SEVERAL TIMES IN MARCH 1974 AND ONCE IN MAY 1974 ON DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT AND CLAIMS CONGRESSMAN DANIEL FLOOD HOLDS COPY OF THIS POWER-OF-ATTORNEY.

4. RIGAUD SAYS HE ESCAPED WHEN HE HEARD THAT PRISON AUTHORITIES WERE PLANNING TO LIQUIDATE HIM TO END EMBARRASSMENT HIS CASE REPRESENTED FOR THE GOVERNMENT. POLITICAL OFFICER TALKED WITH RIGAUD MARCH 8 (MEMCON FORTHCOMING) WHO DETAILED HIS STORY AT LENGTH AND ALSO DESCRIBED PRISON CONDITIONS IN BLEAK TERMS E.G. MISTREATMENT AND POOR CONDITIONS.

5. OTHER ASYLEE IS ANTONIO DUPUY. HE CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN PARTNER OF MILITARY/POLICE OFFICERS IN GRAFT ON CEMENT SALES. WHEN SOURCE OF GRAFT CUT OFF, HIS PARTNERS TRIED TO EXTORT HIS PAST PROFITS AND THREW HIM IN JAIL WHEN HE REFUSED. HE SAYS HE WAS BEATEN AND ABUSED IN PRISON.

6. COMMENT. IT IS DIFFICULT TO JUDGE ACCURACY OF RIGAUD'S STORY BUT BOTH HE AND HIS WIFE ARE ARTICULATE AND TELL A MOST CONVINCING TALE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED. THAT DEPARTMENT CHECK WITH CONGRESSMAN FLOOD'S OFFICE FOR CONFIRMATION OF AND REPORT ON RIGAUD'S ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON DURING SPRING 1974.

ISHAM

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PORT A 00825 091929Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, POLITICAL ASYLUM, EMBASSIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PORTA00825  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770081-0592  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PORT AU PRINCE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770378/aaaacqhp.tel  
**Line Count:** 97  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 77595ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3161939  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEXICAN EMBASSY GRANTS ASYLUM TO ESCAPED PRISONERS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, HA, MX, (RIGAUD, LUCIEN), (DUPUY, ANTONIO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/77595ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009